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OCA 88-0435
11 February 1988

MEMORANDUM FOR: Director of Security

FROM:

25X1

SUBJECT: Request for Briefing on Agency Procedures
for Handling Leaks of Classified Information

1. David Apol from the staff of the Senate Select Committee on Ethics has requested information from the Agency about the methods and procedures for investigating and disciplining employees who deliberately or inadvertently leak classified information to unauthorized sources, especially the press.

2. According to Apol, the Committee is seeking to establish standards and guidelines to be followed should a staffer or Member be accused of leaking classified information. The authority for the Senate Select Committee on Ethics to establish such standards is derived from SJ Res 400. Apol reasons that the Agency has had experience at determining and disciplining employees for leaks and that he can apply this experience to Congressional Members and staffers.

3. Apol is specifically interested in:

--How the Agency determines that a leak of classified information has occurred and that the source of the leak is an Agency employee.

--How the Agency discovers if the leak was deliberate or inadvertent.

--How the level of harm to the "national interest is determined.

--If the leak was determined to be deliberate, what kind of disciplinary action is taken.

--In the case of inadvertent leaks, what adverse actions, if any, are taken against the offender.

4. I believe we should accept the request to brief. Certainly any efforts to develop standards and guidelines to protect against leaks of classified information is in the Agency interest.

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5. Apol has a short deadline and would like to meet with us next week. I am verifying his clearances of Top Secret and will arrange a room at the SSCI facility where we can meet in a classified environment.

25X1

cc: DDA
D/OCA

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